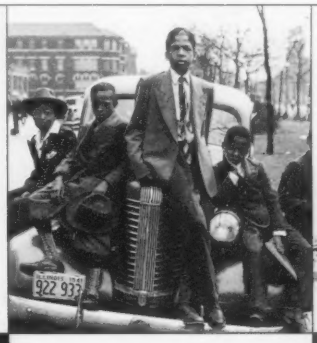

The LIBRARY of CONGRESS Information Bulletin

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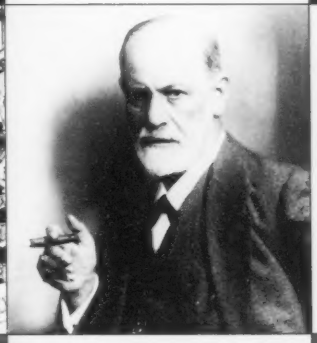
February 1999



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL 1800-2000

The YEAR in REVIEW 1998

BOOKS
GIVE US
WINGS

THE CENTER FOR THE BOOK
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS
Information Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 2 February 1999

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production

Favorite Poem Project Gains Momentum

Tapes to Be Presented to the Library in April 2000

BY JOHN Y. COLE

Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky's Favorite Poem project, one of the Library's Bicentennial commemorations, is gaining momentum and national attention.

In April 1998 the National Endowment for the Arts awarded $500,000 to the New England Foundation for the Arts to support production of the project's audio and visual recordings of Americans reciting beloved poems and speaking about the poems' meaning in their lives. This past summer, project staff at Boston University, aided by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and other partners, mailed more than 8,000 "How to Hold a Favorite Poem Event" packets to libraries. In October, the project was featured in a pictorial essay in *Life* magazine. Since April more than 100 Favorite Poem readings have been held in cities and towns across the country. The popularity of the Favorite Poem idea led to extensions of project deadlines: Favorite Poem events will continue through April 30, 1999, and the deadline for submissions was extended through the end of 1998.

This month Mr. Pinsky will begin making selections of readers for the recorded archives. The goal is to create 1,000 audio and up to 200 video recordings for the Library of Congress's Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature. The tapes will be a "gift to the nation" in the Library's Bicentennial year. They will be presented to the Library on April 3-4, 2000, as part of ceremonies marking both the Library's 200th birthday and the beginning of National Poetry Month. A symposium on poetry and the American people, one of the Library's Bicentennial symposia, will be part of the festivities. The Academy of American Poets and the Poetry Society of America will cosponsor the symposium.

"The project creates a record, at the end of the millennium, of what we choose and what we do with our voices and faces, when asked to say aloud a poem that we love. It is a gift to the nation's future: an archive that may come to represent, in a form both individual and public, the cultural consciousness of the American public at the turn of the millennial century. If a thousand years from now anyone should ask who Americans were, this archive might help give an answer."

— Robert Pinsky

Correction: The article "The Confessions of William Styron," (December LC *Information Bulletin*, p. 294) incorrectly located King and Queen County, Va., on Virginia's Eastern Shore. It is on its Middle Peninsula.

Favorite Poem Events, 1998-1999

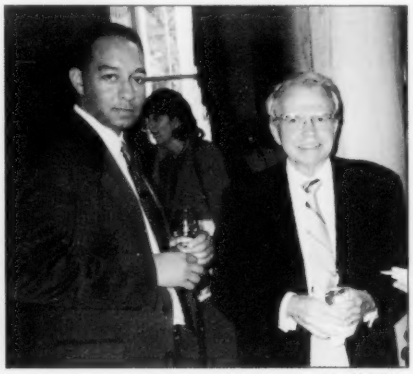
The project was launched during National Poetry Month in April 1998 with favorite poem readings in five cities. The first, at New York's Town Hall on April 1 and sponsored by the Academy of American Poets, included readings by Ed Bradley, co-host of *60 Minutes*, former Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, and elementary, high school and adult literacy students. At the Library of Congress on April 2, 25 people from all walks of life presented poems, including Sen. Thad Cochran (R-Miss), who read from Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken," real estate agent Julia Pardoe ("I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" by William Wordsworth), a cabdriver, a police sergeant and several students (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 1998). The event, presented by LC's Poetry and Literature program, was organized by Washington poet David Gewanter.

The Favorite Poem events in Boston, St. Louis and Los Angeles were cosponsored by the Center for the Book. James Kelly of the W.E.B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst represented the Center for the Book at the Boston Public Library event on April 8, concluding his remarks with lines from one of his favorite poems, "Asphodel, That Greeny Flower," by William Carlos Williams. Other readers included Bernard A. Margolis, president of the Boston Public Library ("Cowboy Poultry Gatherin" by Derrell Arnold), Scott Fruhan, a 16-year old junior at Roxbury Latin School ("Dover Beach" by Matthew Arnold) and elementary school teacher Che Hairston ("My People" by Langston Hughes, recited in sign language and aloud).

An unusual Favorite Poem event took place on April 22, 1998. One of the "Millennium Evenings" at the White House, the program featured a 10-minute film about the role of the Poet Laureate, narrated by Dr. Billington; readings by Mr. Pinsky and immediate past Poet Laureates Robert Hass (1995-1997) and Rita Dove (1993-1995); and favorite poems presented by President Clinton ("Concord Hymn" by Ralph Waldo Emerson) and Mrs. Clinton ("The Makers" by former Poet Laureate Howard Nemerov). The evening was enhanced by a display of manuscripts, first editions and other rare books from the Library's collections.

Poet Carl Phillips, the director of the Writing Program at Washington University and a Library of Congress Witter Bynner Fellow in 1997-98, organized the favorite poem event in St. Louis on April 25. The Missouri Center for the Book was a cosponsor. After introductory remarks by Mr. Pinsky; Prosser Gifford, the Library's director of Scholarly Programs; and this writer, the audience was treated to a varied

Susan Dubs



Doug Macomber

Newly elected Speaker of the California State Assembly Antonio Villaraigosa joins Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan in reading poems by Shel Silverstein in Los Angeles; poet Carl Phillips with Center for the Book Director John Cole at a Favorite Poem event at the White House in April.

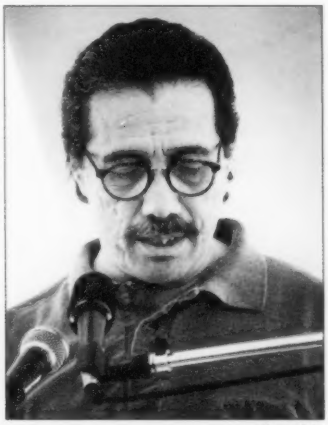
program that included as readers: high school students Marti Palermo ("Richard Cory" by Edward Arlington Robinson) and Sara Ann Jones ("Lovesong" by Ted Hughes); *St. Louis Magazine* columnist Joe Pollack ("The King's Breakfast" by A.A. Milne), and St. Louis mayor Clarence Harmon ("Deferred" by Langston Hughes).

The Los Angeles Favorite Poem event on April 26 was organized by poet and University of Southern California professor Carol Muske, who also was an LC Witter Bynner Fellow in 1997-98. Held in cooperation with the Los Angeles Public Library as part of the 1998 Los Angeles Times Festival of Books on the UCLA campus, the event drew a standing-room-only audience of several hundred people. Former Poet Laureate Robert Hass and this writer presented opening remarks. Poems were presented in several languages by 18 readers. They included: Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan (two poems by Shel Silverstein), metal sculptor Tom Hellwarth ("How Things Work" by Gary Soto), the mother of the event's organizer and poetry lover Elsie K. Muske, who recited without notes "Crossing the Bar" by Alfred Lord Tennyson; actor Edward James Olmos (poetry by Federico Garcia Lorca) and publisher and writer Victor Navasky ("Jenny Kissed Me" by Leigh Hunt).

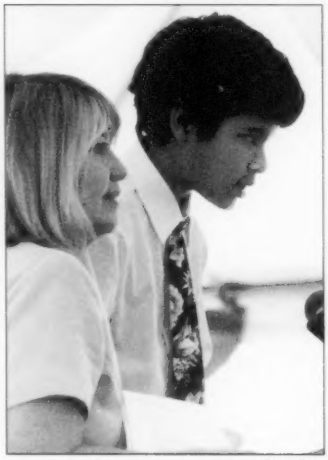
The Center for the Book is cosponsoring four Favorite Poem events in the spring of 1999. On March 16 at the Newbery Library in Chicago, its program partners will be the Poetry Society of America, *Poetry Magazine* and the Illinois Center for the Book. Poet Heather McHugh, a Witter Bynner Fellow for 1998-1999, is organizing a Favorite Poem event at the Seattle Public Library on March 17. The Washington Center for the Book is a sponsor. 1998-99 Witter Bynner Fellow Campbell McGrath's turn comes on March 24, when he is organizing a reading in Miami in cooperation with the Florida Center for the Book. Finally, at the Library of Congress on April 7, David Gewanter, this time as a Witter Bynner Fellow for 1998-99, is organizing a second LC Favorite Poem event. Earlier the same evening, the Center for the Book and one of its reading promotion partners, the Children's Book Council, in cooperation with the District Lines Poetry Project, will launch Young People's Poetry Week — a new annual celebration of poetry for children and young adults that will encourage more librarians and educators to include the reading and writing of poetry in their libraries and classrooms.

For more details on the Favorite Poem project, visit the project's Web site at www.favoritepoem.org. ◆

Mr. Cole has been director of the Center for the Book since it was established in 1977.



Susan Dubs



Susan Dubs

Actor Edward James Olmos (above), event organizer Carol Muske and 11-year-old Kiyoshi Houston at the Los Angeles "Favorite Poem" event.

The Meta-Exchange Pilot Project

A New Way to Organize Book Exchanges with Russia

BY MURRAY G. WALPOLE

Picture two imaginary trains traveling across the vast expanse of Russia's steppes, one eastbound, the second heading west and that both these trains are transporting valuable cargo — books — at the behest of a Librarian of Congress. Then consider that the westbound train began its journey in central Siberia in 1907, while the books following the eastbound rails and nearing Siberia embarked on their route in 1997.

Where might these two Russian locomotives, one originating in Asia, the other Europe, cross paths? Ekaterinburg, nestled in the southern Urals, is the answer; a place where east and west meet, and Russia's past, present and future are intertwined.

In 1903, Librarian of Congress Herbert G. Putnam first explored acquiring an 80,000-volume library belonging to Siberian merchant Gennadii Vasilevich Yudin. In 1907, the books were shipped from Krasnoyarsk to Washington, where they formed the foundation of LC's Russian collections — the greatest to be found outside Russia.

Ninety-four years later, the current Librarian, Dr. Billington, following meetings in Russia with Evgeny Kuzmin, head of the Department of Libraries in the Russian Ministry of Culture, proposed a "new way to organize book exchange" with Russia on a grand scale — with the potential to include not only great numbers of books, but also electronic data.

On Jan. 14, 1997, the immediate challenge to Russian specialists of the Librarian's Office, the European, and the Exchange and Gift divisions, was to assess what the Library would expect to gain from and be able to offer to Russian libraries under such an arrangement.

The Librarian delegated Harold Leich, a senior reference specialist in the European Division, to draw up a proposal. John Van Oudenaren, chief of the division, was appointed by Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services, to coordinate the Library's effort to establish a new exchange structure with Russia. "At that initial stage," says Mr. Van Oudenaren, "we realized we were exploring a big, retrospective exchange that would go beyond the major centers of Russia."

Meeting of staff of the Sverdlovsk Oblast Library. Marina Koptiaeva, head of the Innovations Department, stands beside the Library's Michael Neubert. SOL Director Nadezhda Tsypina sits beside him.

Don Panzera, chief of the Exchange and Gift (E&G) Division, began to work with his staff. "We had to quickly determine," he recalls, "the staff, book supply and financial resources the project would require."

E-mail flew across the Library as staff attempted to quantify and qualify the proposed exchange. Eric A. Johnson, a senior exchange specialist in E&G, came up with a name befitting the scope of the endeavor on Jan. 16. "There's physics," he explains, "and there is metaphysics, which goes beyond and transcends the usual concepts of the subject. Likewise, there is standard Russian book exchange, and this — meta-exchange — shipping books by the container rather than in small boxes."

The proposal describing the Library's position on the meta-exchange stressed LC's desire to strengthen its existing exchange partnerships and establish new ones. The Library would offer lending and reference materials, as available, in exchange for Russian monographs, newspapers, serials, periodicals and journals from the early 19th century to the present.

The Library has, of course, maintained exchange agreements with Russia for many years, even when there were no formal diplomatic relations between the two countries, such as in 1917-1933. "During the Soviet period," explains Mr. Johnson, "their system was so centralized that exchange partners in Moscow and Leningrad could supply material from the provinces. There were only about 100 libraries in all of the U.S.S.R. that were allowed to exchange with the West."

Everything changed with the collapse of the Soviet system, however. "In 1991, we had 89 exchange partners in the entire U.S.S.R.," Johnson continues. "Today, we have 155 in Russia alone. With the political meltdown came a decentralization of the Russian library system. This means we have to aggressively seek partners in the smaller centers."

In March 1997, Dr. Billington, Mr. Van Oudenaren and Irene Steckler, a special assistant to Dr. Billington, met with Mr. Kuzmin here in Washington, reaching further agreement and understanding of a large-scale exchange program.

Several important points concerning what LC could hope to receive from Russia were becoming more clear.

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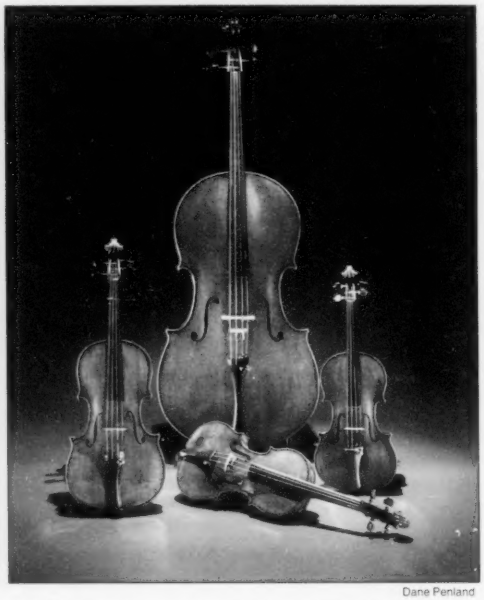
Dane Penland



Dane Penland

Three masters: violins by Amati, Stradivari and Guarneri; a quartet of Whittall Stradivari instruments: the Cassavetti viola, the Castelbarco cello, the Betts violin and the Ward violin (on its side).

'Masters at the Beginning of the Art'

Stradivari Society Director Lectures at Library

BY YVONNE FRENCH AND SUSAN MANUS

The Library has a world-renowned collection of stringed instruments by Antonio Stradivari (1644-1737) and Giuseppe Guarneri (1687-1745). Those instruments and others were the subject of a lecture on Dec. 18 that preceded the Antonio Stradivari Anniversary Concert in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium.

Executive Director of the Stradivari Society John Kang explained that the group is dedicated to advancing the careers of artists by joining patrons and their acquisitions with violinists, violists and cellists. The society has helped such esteemed artists as Joshua Bell, Gil Shaham, Sarah Chang, Maxim Vengerov and Vadim Repin.

Geoffrey Fushi, president of the society, spoke of the life and work of the great masters, while Janice Martin performed excerpts of several works on the various instruments.

Mr. Fushi described the characteristics of the violins created in Italy in the 17th and 18th century during the classical period of violin making and debated why they cannot be replicated today.

"We cannot replicate the art form. At the time, Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri were two of the many early violin builders in Italy who shared the same craftsmanship and materials, such as wood and varnish. Stradivari in particular was experimenting with the shape and size ... of the violin as he progressed through four distinctive periods."

"The best works of Stradivari and Guarneri have never been surpassed. They were masters at the beginning of the art," said Mr. Fushi, a violinist himself and a founding partner of Bein & Fushi Rare Violins, the parent company of the Stradivari Society. He has played between 120 and 130 Stradivaris and 60 Guarneris, he said.

Stradivari and Guarneri often referred to themselves as Stradivarius or Guarnerius. It was customary at the time to Latinize formal writings and names. Inside each violin is a label bearing the name of the maker, the city in which he worked and the year the instrument was made. As was the custom, Stradivari Latinized his name to "Antonius Stradivarius" and Guarneri Latinized his to "Joseph Guarnerius." The names people can read inside the violins are "Stradivarius" and "Guarnerius," but they are more correctly referred to as Stradivari and Guarneri. Giuseppe Guarneri is commonly known as "del Gesu," which in Latin means "of Jesus" since he included a reference to this on his violin labels.

The Library's violin collection (including violas and cellos) totals eight instruments, which are considered to be some of the finest examples in existence. Five of these are by Antonio Stradivari (1644-1737), and were acquired through a generous donation from Gertrude Clarke Whittall in 1935. These instruments are as follows: three violins (the "Betts," "Ward," and "Castelbarco"), a viola (the "Cassa-

vetti") and a cello (the "Castelbarco"). The Library's collection also includes the "Kreisler" violin by Giuseppe Guarneri "del Gesu" (1698-1744), donated by the renowned violinist and composer Fritz Kreisler, along with his manuscripts and other memorabilia in 1952; a violin (the "Brookings") by Niccolo Amati (1596-1684), presented by Mrs. Robert Brookings of Washington, D.C., in 1938; and a second Stradivari viola, the "Tuscan-Medici," on long-term loan since 1977 from Mrs. Cameron Baird of New York.

Famous instruments often take on the name of a collector, a player or a physical characteristic. For example, the Library's "Betts" Stradivari is named after former owner Arthur Betts, an early 19th century London instrument dealer and player. The instrument was subsequently sold 14 times prior to Mrs.Whittall's ownership. The "Kreisler" Guarneri and the "Brookings" Amati are other examples of instruments named after former player-owners. Some other examples include the "Ruby" Stradivari, so-named for its red hues, and the "Dolphin," Stradivari's last violin, named for its shimmering back.

The leading maker during the early 17th century was Niccolo Amati, who is generally thought to be one of Stradivari's teachers. The violins from this maker have a sweet, mellow sound. According to Mr. Fushi, Stradivari's early violins (from the 1660s-1690s) can be similarly characterized. However, in the 1690-1700 period, Stradivari lengthened the body and narrowed the width of his violins, rendering a more colorful, concentrated sound with more powerful projection. Stradivari's "golden period" instruments (1700-1720s) render a broader, richer sound, while those of the last period (1730s) produce a darker, deeper voice "as happens to us when we age," observed Mr. Fushi. In general, the increasing technical demands placed on players of the baroque era may have influenced the development of more powerful sounding instruments.

According to Robert Sheldon, curator of the musical instrument collections at the Library, the many instruments of the Guarneri family "are considered by serious players to be rather different from those of the Stradivari family, although there would be numerous differences found within the output of any one maker. The differences often have more to do with the way the instruments respond to the individual players than the actual tonal result for the listener." Mr. Sheldon said, "Many violinists who have played on the Library's 'Kreisler' Guarneri feel as if it plays itself."

Detail of the Library's "Kreisler" Guarneri violin shows the craftsmanship that went into the instrument when it was made in 1733 in Cremona, Italy.

Along with the evening's lecture, Ms. Martin demonstrated the sound of five rare Italian instruments. Of these, the "Brookings" Amati (1654), the "Ward" Stradivari (1700) and the "Kreisler" Guarneri (1733) were from the Library's collections. (The "Kreisler" Guarneri can also be heard on-line, in many of the video clips from the Library's American Memory Web site "An American Ballroom Companion" at memory.loc.gov/ammem/dihtml/dihome.html.

She also played two instruments from the Stradivari Society: a viola by Gasparo da Salo (ca. 1590), and the Stradivari violin presented to her by her

continued on page 27

Theodore Weust

An illustration from *The Dance of Society*, "a critical analysis of all the standard quadrilles, round dances, 102 figures of le cotillon ('the german') &c., including dissertations upon time and its accentuation, carriage, style and other relative matter," by William De Garmo, 1875.

An American Ballroom Companion

Treasures Abound in American Memory Site

BY SUSAN MANUS

As reported last month, the release of the multimedia collection "An American Ballroom Companion: Dance Instruction Manuals, ca. 1490-1920" is now on-line in the Library's American Memory collections at www.loc.gov/. Following is an overview of this interesting site.

"An American Ballroom Companion" features more than 200 books relating to the instruction of social dance during the 400 years that are represented in the collection. In addition to dance instruction, the books cover related topics such as etiquette, dance history, anti-dance treatises and notation.

The newest feature of this site is 75 video clips of the dances that defined each era. Some of these are from a performance in full costume, and some are short "tutorial" demonstrations.

The complete collection represented by this Web site exists in the electronic version only. These dance books are housed among several different divisions in the Library; the Music Division, the Rare Book and Special Collections Division and the general collections.

Vicky Risner, head of Acquisitions and Processing in the Music Division, describes the featured books as "a hidden treasure. No one knew we had so much of this kind of material before, because it wasn't physically together."

The Dance Manuals in the Collection

In Renaissance Europe, the study of social dance was the privilege of only the wealthiest citizens, who had access to this activity through the royal court or by private instruction. Due in part to the tight, bulky clothing worn at that time, dances of the period (such as the galliard and branle) mainly concentrated on intricate footwork, deemphasizing the upper body. Most Renaissance dance manuals are by French and Italian dancing masters and include detailed descriptions of the dances, as well as illustrations and musical samples.

During the Baroque era, French dancing master Raoul Feuillet developed a new notation system that documented many of the dances popular at the French royal court. With the advent of this new written standard, group dances (such as the contredanse or country dance) were eventually spread to the American Colonies. By the 19th century, there were many volumes of dance instruction published in the United States. These manuals represent the majority of the items in "An American Ballroom Companion."

The early 19th century manuals in this collection show the emphasis on group dances such as the quadrille. By the late 19th century, the popular

Illustration from *Il ballarino* by Fabritio Caroso da Sermoneta (1581); the cover of *Beadle's Dime Ball-Room Companion and Guide to Dancing* (1860), "comprising rules of etiquette, hints on private parties, toilettes for the ball-room, etc."; a photo from *The Tango and the New Dances for Ballroom and Home* by Maurice (Bales O'Donnell, 1914), with "steps described so plainly anyone can readily learn them."

group dance was the German cotillion or simply "German," which often included party favors or props. One manual in the collection, by the dance teacher Allen Dodworth, lists 250 variations of the German (with figures titled "basket" or "serpent" and some requiring props such as "the frogs" or "the stormy sea").

The waltz became the most popular of the 19th century "round dances," which also included the polka, galop, schottisch and others. Every instructional manual from the 19th century contains some discussion of the ubiquitous waltz.

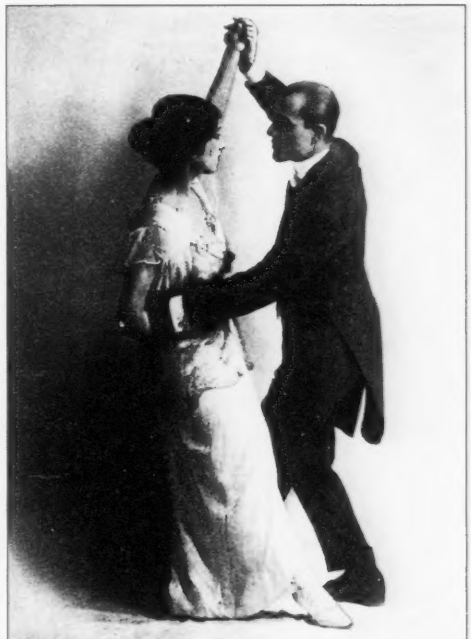
◆

"... a dancer should not attempt a step which he cannot perform with ease, because there can be no grace where there are contortions."

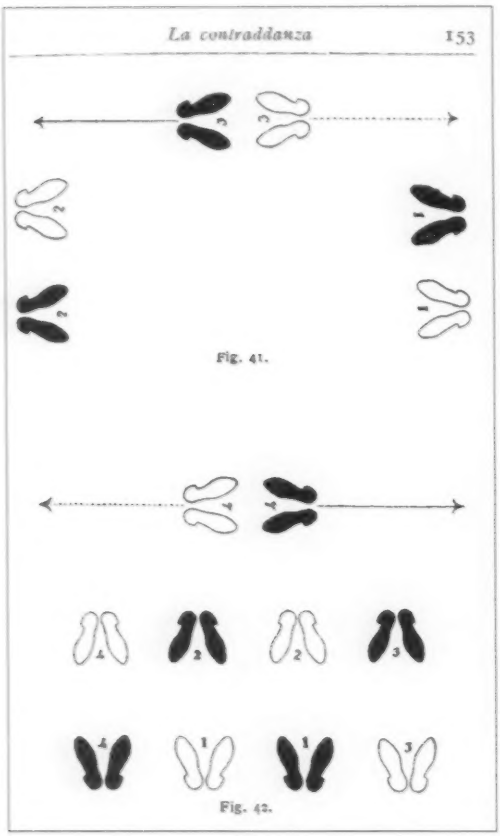
Elements and Principles of the Art of Dancing
J.H. Gourdoux-Daux, 1817

◆

As in contemporary society, exercise was promoted in the early 19th century, as noted by James Cassidy in his book from 1810, *A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Dancing:* "A merely studious and sedentary life is therefore equally prejudicial to the body and the mind."



This pose illustrates the manner in which the Spanish time is emphasized by the dancers. The shoulders dip deeply, and the corresponding feet are extended in a half curtesy.



A step-by-step dance diagram from *Balli di ieri e balli d'oggi* by P. Gavina (1922).

Instructions on etiquette and decorum (such as table settings, etc.) were added to many 19th century dance manuals, in response to the growing trend toward more rules and regulations in polite society. William Greene's 1889 "Terpsichorean Monitor" includes discourse on the many rules of the time governing good behavior, including "When meeting a lady with whom you would like to converse, you should not stop her, but turn and accompany her in the direction she may be going; not forgetting, when taking your leave, to lift your hat."

◆

"In conversation at the table, be careful not to speak while eating a mouthful; it is indecorous in the extreme."

The Lady's Guide to Perfect Gentility
Emily Thornwell , 1857

◆

The effect of 19th century modesty is reflected in this quote from Allen Dodworth's *Dancing and Its Relations to Education and Social Life*, published in 1900; "The idea of one holding the other should not be too strongly entertained. To dance together in sympathetic time and motion ought to be the dominant thought." Dodworth also offers a reason to start dance training at an early age: "With children, the effort to move gracefully produces a desire also to be gracious in manner, and this is one of the best influences of a dancing-school."

◆

"The practice of the slower movements refines and elevates the taste."

Dancing and its Relations to Education and Social Life
Allen Dodworth, 1900

◆

The turn of the century saw the advent of a distinctly American style of music, called "ragtime" and the emergence of a new, freer style of ballroom dance. These more individualistic dances included the cakewalk and the turkey trot, as well as the imported tango and the maxixe. These dances are described in the early 20th century manuals in the collection, including the well-illustrated *Modern Dancing* (1914) by Vernon and Irene Castle, who were popular exhibition dancers of the time.

From a practical standpoint, the actual steps can be put to the test, as many of the manuals provide step-by-step instructions for specific dances. In addition, volumes throughout the entire time frame of the collection often contain notation, floor patterns, elaborate illustrations or photographs.

This collection also contains a significant number of anti-dance treatises, often in the form of religious sermons. Some of the most emotional writings in the collection are found in books depicting the evils of dance, as in the 1892 publication *From the Ballroom to Hell* by one-time dancing master Thomas Faulkner. Faulkner makes his case for the dangers of the waltz and boldly states, "To stop this great tide of sin we must begin at its source. To close the doors of the brothel, close first the doors of the dancing school."

◆

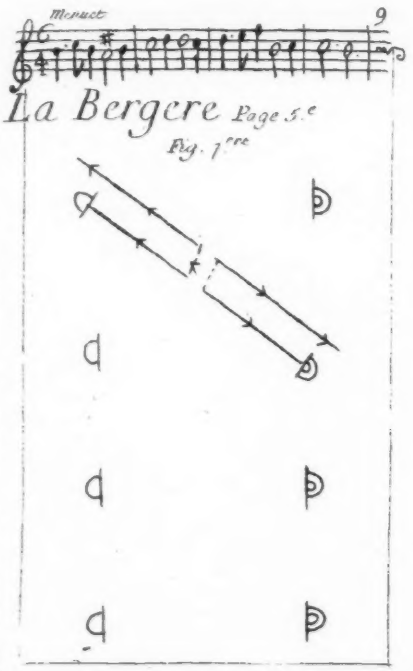
"The dress of a gentle man should be such as not to excite any special observation, unless it be for neatness and propriety."

The Art of Dancing
Edward Ferrero, 1859

◆

Enhancement of American Memory Collections

This site is unique for the Library's Web site due to the number of complete books offered and for the multimedia options available. Each of the 200 books feature complete page images that can be viewed via an electronic "page turner," that is, the pages



An example of dance notation with music, from *Recüeil de contredances* by Raoul-Auger Feuillet (1706)

"The correct way to start the Castle walk" from *Modern Dancing* by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Castle (1914)

can be read consecutively, as in a book. Many of these books are also text converted in HTML, and also in SGML to enable extensive searching.

The newest feature of "An American Ballroom Companion" is the addition of 75 video demonstrations of many of these historic dances, enabling users to compare directly the written texts with the movements themselves. These short videos all feature professional dancers, some in full costume from a re-creation of an 1897 ball held at the Library of Congress in 1997 for the centennial of the Jefferson Building. The other videos feature one or two dancers in close-up "tutorials" of specific steps from the Renaissance to ragtime eras.

The site's most noteworthy feature is the extent to which these videos are linked; there is a complete listing in the Video Directory, as well as links in the relevant bibliographic records, book page images and background material. The video clips themselves are available in four different formats, a first for the American Memory site, in order to accommodate the wide variety of user equipment.

According to the National Digital Library's Morgan Cundiff, team leader for this project: "This Web site provided several design challenges. Our project team developed a new way to navigate between the full text of the dance manuals and the digital images of the corresponding pages. We also were able to provide a very thorough system of links to the accompanying video clips that illustrate various dances and movements."

The "Special Presentation" section of the site includes narrative material designed to assist users in assimilating the great amount of material in this collection. The first part is an overview of social dance history as it relates to the books in this collection. The second is a primer *How to Use a Dance Manual*, which provides an overview of the general importance of dance manuals and how to use a manual to learn a specific dance. This material was written by noted dance historian Elizabeth Aldrich, who served as special consultant for this project.

The material is valuable to researchers, according to Ms. Aldrich, because "the collection contains a wide range of important primary dance materials, covering the development of social dance from the early Renaissance to the 1920s and, second, this material is scarce — except in a few urban research collections. The field of dance research will be enhanced by its availability." ◆

Ms. Manus is a specialist in the National Digital Library Program.

Stradivari
continued from page 23

patron, Joseph Burstein, who recently acquired it. Mr. Burstein is allowing Ms. Martin to use the "Sir Bagshawe" Stradivari violin of 1708, an example of 'the golden period.' Mr. Burstein is the first Washingtonian to be a member of the Stradivari Society and was recognized by Mr. Fushi at the lecture.

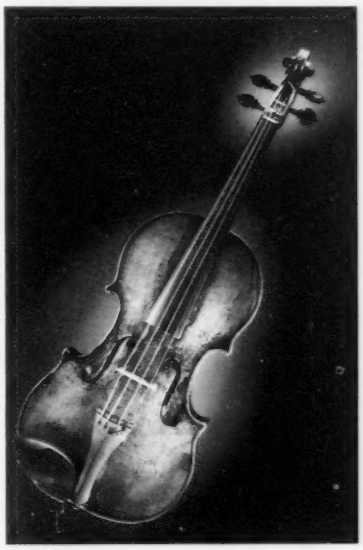
Ms. Martin's impressive technique enhanced this rare opportunity to closely compare the distinctive sounds of these instruments. She first played the same excerpt on all the instruments (the opening phrase of J.S. Bach's unaccompanied Sonata in G minor), and then she played a different, virtuosic selection on each instrument.

The Racine, Wis., native is a graduate of the Juilliard and Indiana schools of music and has studied with Dorothy Delay, Yuval Yaron, Masao Kawasaki and Glenn Dicterow. She is a solo recitalist and lecturer and recently founded the chamber trio Aurora. She also works in other genres, including jazz, notably with jazz legend Larry Willis.

Following the lecture, the Juilliard String Quartet played three of the Stradivari instruments donated to the Library by Mrs. Whittall, plus the "Tuscan-Medici" viola, for the concert following the lecture. The performance included Mozart's Quartet in D minor, K. 421; Elliott Carter's Quartet No. 5; and Beethoven's Quartet in F major, Op. 59, No. 1.

The concert marked the 261st anniversary of Stradivari's death in Cremona on Dec. 18, 1737. Such an anniversary concert has been played for more than six decades by the Library's resident string quartet, formerly the Budapest and now, the Juilliard. ◆

Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office. Ms. Manus is a music specialist for the National Digital Library Program.



Niccolo Amati of Cremona, Italy, made this violin, known as the "Brookings," in 1654.

© James D. Scherlis

Lorenzo Wright

Donna Urschel

In fiscal 1998, the Library reopened the historic Coolidge Auditiorium in October 1997 with a series of concerts, including a series by the Juilliard Quartet; Dr. Billington, FOLUSA President Heather Cameron, Librarian of Congress Emeritus Daniel Boorstin, FOLUSA Executive Director Sandy Dolnick and Center for the Book Director John Cole unveil a bronze plaque designating the Jefferson Building as a Literary Landmark in June; Director of Information Technology Services Herbert Becker, Deputy Librarian Donald Scott and Associate Librarian for Library Services Winston Tabb join ILS project Director Barbara Tillett to celebrate the award of a contract for the development of an Integrated Library System in May.

The Year in Review

1998 Marks Anniversaries, Achievements at Library

BY AUDREY FISCHER

As the Library prepared for its Bicentennial celebration in the year 2000, it marked many historic milestones during fiscal year 1998 (Oct. 1, 1997–Sept. 30, 1998), including several centenary celebrations: the opening of the Thomas Jefferson Building, the establishment of the Music Division and the placement of the Copyright Office in the Library of Congress — all of which occurred in 1897.

Other highlights included increased physical security (collections, facilities, staff) and computer resources, including work to ensure that the Library's information systems will function properly in the year 2000; the awarding of a contract for the development of an Integrated Library System; and major progress toward the goal of digitizing millions of items by the Library's Bicentennial year as a gift to the nation. The Library reduced its arrearage of uncataloged materials by another 861,000 items, received a number of important new acquisitions and improved service to Congress and the nation through the use of technology.

Bicentennial

The Library will be 200 years old in the year 2000, making it the oldest federal cultural institution in the nation. Planning for the Library's Bicentennial commemoration began with the appointment of a steering committee of senior Library managers under the leadership of the Librarian of Congress, the establishment of the theme "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty" and the goal to inspire creativity in the century ahead by stimulating greater use of the Library of Congress and libraries everywhere.

In June 1998, a Bicentennial program manager was appointed to coordinate the effort. In October 1998, Congress approved a commemorative coin to mark the historic occasion in 2000, and a U.S. postage stamp was designed. Planning began on a number of key Bicentennial initiatives such as "Local Legacies," a project to document cultural traditions and events in each congressional district at the turn of the century.

The Library made plans for its Bicentennial; the Center for the Book celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Milestones

During fiscal 1998, a number of Library offices, programs and facilities celebrated anniversaries. The Center for the Book, one of the Library's most visible education outreach programs, celebrated its 20th anniversary in October 1997. On Oct. 30, 1997, the Library of Congress reopened its historic Coolidge Auditorium with a season of festivals honoring the centenary of the Music Division. The Library celebrated the centenary of the Thomas Jefferson Building on Nov. 4, 1997 with a commemorative stamp cancellation, the opening of the exhibition "Book Palace

of the American People" and the unveiling of a plaque honoring the key role that Vermont Rep. Justin S. Morrill (1810-1898) played in obtaining the original Library of Congress building. On June 26, 1998, the Jefferson Building was designated a Literary Landmark by the Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA), an affiliate of the American Library Association. On Dec. 10, 1997, the Copyright Office celebrated the centenary of its establishment as a separate office in the Library of Congress, and the creation of a Register of Copyrights position.

For the first time in nearly 40 years, the American Library Association held its annual meeting in Washington. In June, the Library welcomed participants to the weeklong conference with an array of Library-sponsored programs, events, tours and learning opportunities. A reception in the Great Hall marked the centennial of the Library of Congress Subject Headings and the 25th anniversary of the Library's oldest cooperative cataloging program, CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials).

Strategic Plan

The Library's 1997-2004 Strategic Plan identified the mission, priorities, values and objectives to take the Library into the 21st century. During fiscal 1998, the Library linked the plan's objectives to the budget by defining core processes and developing an annual program performance-planning process. Planning efforts were rewarded with an unqualified "clean" audit opinion on the Library's 1997 Consolidated Financial Statements by KPMG Peat Marwick LLP.

Legislative Support to Congress

Serving Congress is the Library's highest priority. During the year, the Congressional Research Service (CRS) delivered approximately 560,000 research responses to members and committees of Congress. CRS assisted Congress in dealing with the full range of its domestic concerns, including banking and finance, campaign finance reform, clean air, congressional legal concerns, education and patient protection legislation. In the international sphere, CRS assisted Congress on issues such as defense policy and budget, foreign policy and regional issues and global financial crises and the international finance system.

The Law Library answered nearly 4,300 in-person reference requests from congressional users. Law Library research staff produced 710 written reports for Congress, including comprehensive multinational studies on issues such as human rights, health care, crime and violence, government and finance.

The Copyright Office provided policy advice and technical assistance to Congress on important copyright-related issues. As a result, a number of key pieces of legislation were enacted, including the No Electronic Theft Act, the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Copyright term extension bill.

Improved Service to Congress and The Nation Through Technology

The Library continued to improve its cataloging, copyright, research, management and information delivery systems through the development and use of technology. Specific achievements in 1998 include:

- **THOMAS.** Since January 5, 1995, THOMAS, a World Wide Web-based resource, has provided searching and access to legislative information and links to other legislative Internet resources. During fiscal year 1998, the amount of legislative information in THOMAS doubled through the addition of earlier files to provide continuous coverage from the 101st to the 105th Congress for the *Congressional Record*, the texts of legislation, and committee reports from the 103rd to 105th Congress. Searching features in THOMAS were enhanced through a new release of the search engine and addition of date limits. At the request of Congress, the Report of the Independent Counsel was mounted on THOMAS in mid-September, followed by two subsequent releases of testimony. The average 9.3 million monthly transaction volume for THOMAS more than doubled to 19 million for the month of September. As of September 30, 1998, more than 220 million transactions had been processed by THOMAS since its inception in January 1995; more than half of these transactions occurred in fiscal 1998.
- **Legislative Information System.** Working with the Committee on House Oversight and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, in consultation with the House and Senate subcommittees on legislative branch appropriations, the Library developed a plan for a single integrated Legislative Information System (LIS) to serve Congress. The Library updated the LIS plan and briefed congressional staff on scheduled development work for 1998. Since the initial delivery of the Library's portion of the LIS on Jan. 7, 1997, the Library collaborated with House and Senate staffs to determine the most useful new search features and new content to add to the LIS. To ease the transition from the House legacy system to the new system, the LIS was enhanced with more traditional and familiar search features. Joint planning for data exchange among the House, Senate and Library occurred throughout fiscal 1998, and decisions on compatible technologies were made to ensure that information would flow smoothly from

N. Alicia Byers

The Library hosted educators for the second year of its American Memory Fellows Educators Institute; *Civilization* magazine completed its fourth year of publication.

all legislative branch agencies into the LIS. The LIS was enhanced and more links were added to House and Senate information, increasing its prominence as the central point for locating legislative information.

• **Electronic Briefing Books.** During fiscal 1998, CRS created three prototype electronic briefing books on the CRS home page highlighting issues on the congressional agenda. These briefing books offer instant, comprehensive access to information, analysis, key documents and historical perspectives on legislative issues before Congress dealing with electric utilities, global climate control and tobacco. Interactive electronic formats enable users to customize their on-line research. All briefing books include common elements (such as CRS products and experts and links to related issues and Web sites), but each is individually designed to present its subject area most effectively. At year's end, plans were under way to offer a broader range of briefing books, and new presentation formats were being explored.

• **Internet Resources.** The Library continued to provide Congress and the nation with a growing amount of information through its Internet-based systems. Workstations with public access to the Internet were made available in many of the Library's reading rooms.

The Library's Internet-based systems were continually cited for excellence in 1998 and were included on many "best of" lists, including *PC Magazine*, eBlast and *Encyclopedia Britannica's* Internet Guide. Throughout the year, an average of 60 million transactions were recorded on the Library's public electronic systems. In October 1998, the Library recorded a record 83.1 million transactions from both internal and public systems, more than double the fiscal 1997 monthly average.

• **Global Legal Information Network (GLIN).** GLIN is a cooperative international network to which member nations contribute the full, authentic text of statutes and regulations on a database hosted by the Law Library of Congress. Twelve member countries are currently participating via the Internet. In March 1998, the Library put into production a new release of GLIN with expanded search capabilities and enhanced security features. At the fifth annual GLIN project directors meeting in September 1998, the Library demonstrated a prototype for the input of a new category of legal information, legal writings.

• **National Digital Library.** The National Digital Library Program made significant progress during fiscal year 1998 toward the goal of making a critical mass of Americana freely accessible by the year 2000, the Library's Bicentennial. At year's end, more than 1.4 million Library of Congress digital files and 13,900 digital files from other collaborating institutions were available on-line or in digital archives at www.loc.gov/. More than 2 million additional digital files from both the Library's collections and other repositories were in various stages of production as part of a national collaborative effort.

During fiscal 1998, 16 new multimedia historical collections were added to the Library's World Wide Web site, including two winning collections from the Library of Congress Americtech Competition. In the second year of the three-year nationwide competition, the program continued to provide financial and technical support to other archives and institutions in digitizing historically significant American collections. A total of 21 award winners have received support for their digitization efforts since the program's inception.

The National Digital Library Program continued to reach out to the education community with enhancements to the Learning Page and Today in History, two popular on-line features. In its second year, the Educators Institute brought 50 educators from 18 states to Washington to explore use of primary sources in education, to develop lesson plans that draw upon the Library's on-line collections and to share teaching ideas on-line with other teachers.

• **Geographic Information System.** The Geography and Map Division (G&M) worked closely with the Congressional Research Service and Congressional Relations Office to produce customized maps and geographic information for members. The division also worked with the National Digital Library Program to digitize cartographic materials for electronic access throughout the nation on the Internet. Working closely with private sector partners, G&M continued to expand the collection of large-format images available through the Internet. A second major map collection, Railroad Maps, was introduced on June 24, 1998. By the end of the fiscal year, 1,522 maps (4,971 images) were made available to the world through the Map Collections home page, which now averages more than 350,000 computer transactions each month at lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html/.

Technology Projects in Test Status

On May 15, 1998, the Library awarded a contract to the Endeavor Information Systems Inc. for its Voyager integrated software system. The new system will improve automation support for bibliographic control and inventory management activities at the Library through the use of a shared bibliographic database that integrates all major Library Services functional areas (e.g., acquisitions, cataloging, serials management, circulation, inventory control and reference).

The Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS), a major new system for digital registration and deposit of copyrighted works over the Internet, uses the latest advances in networking and computer technology. CORDS is being developed by the Copyright Office in collaboration with national high-technology research and development partners (the Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Corporation for National Research Initiatives). During fiscal 1998, the Copyright Office drafted a cooperative agreement with UMI, a national producer of dissertation microfilm. The agreement would permit electronic registration and deposit of as many as 20,000 dissertations per year.

The Electronic Cataloging in Publication (ECIP) project is enabling the Library to obtain texts of forthcoming publications from publishers via the Internet, catalog them entirely in an electronic environment and transmit the completed catalog records by electronic mail to the publisher for inclusion on the copyright page of the printed book. Staff cataloged 1,038 titles last year, bringing the cumulative total since the experiment's inception to more than 3,000.

Security of Facilities, Staff, Collections and Computer Resources

During fiscal 1998, two of the Library's congressional oversight committees — the House Oversight and Senate Rules and Administration — approved the comprehensive Security

Plan that was completed at the end of fiscal 1997. The plan provides a framework for the security of the Library's staff, visitors, facilities, collections and other assets. At year's end, the plan was being updated to reflect major physical security enhancements resulting from recent incidents and increased threats. The Library installed and activated new state-of-the-art magnetometers and increased police coverage at many strategic locations, including public entrances and exterior patrols. An additional $16.9 million to enhance the security of Library staff, visitors and facilities was included in the omnibus year-end spending bill that President Clinton signed into law on Oct. 21. These funds were part of a $106.8 million package to improve the physical security of the Capitol complex, including the House and Senate office buildings.

The Library continued to implement a comprehensive computer security plan to safeguard its valuable electronic resources, and a Year 2000 plan to ensure that its computer systems will function properly at the turn of the century by testing, modifying or replacing systems as necessary. During fiscal year 1998, the Library identified 99 mission-critical systems, 41 of which were renovated, 16 validated and 15 implemented. Work began to develop contingency plans for mission-critical systems. An automated tracking system was developed and initiated to track and monitor progress.

Arrearage Reduction

The Library reduced the total unprocessed arrearage by 861,548 items while remaining current with new receipts. This represented a cumulative reduction of about 51.9 percent of the amount on hand at the time of the initial arrearage census in September 1989 — from 39.7 million to less than 19.1 million. Processing of print materials continued at very high levels, even as staffing levels continued to drop. In fiscal 1998, staff created cataloging records for 274,890 volumes. Building on the momentum generated during the past two years through the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, cooperative arrangements continued to flourish. PCC member institutions increased by 100 during the year to a record high of 339 and once again contributed record-breaking numbers of bibliographic records (57,926 including 37,559 for monographs and 20,367 for serials), name authorities (161,446), subject authorities (2,159) and the Library's classifications proposals (883), with additional contributions of 9,233 series authorities.

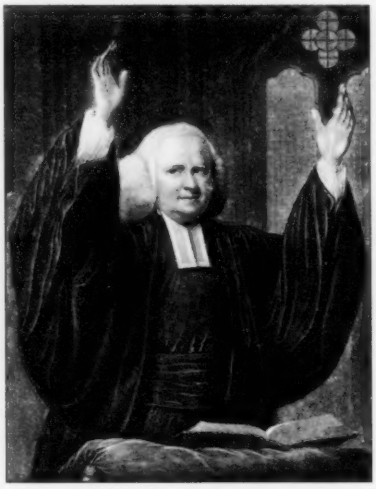
Library acquisitions in 1998 included papers of composer Leonard Bernstein, poet Edna St. Vincent Millay, choreographer Martha Graham and cartoonist Pat Oliphant.

Secondary Storage

Linked to the Library's arrearage reduction effort is the development of a secondary storage site to house processed materials and to provide for growth of the collection through the first part of the 21st century. During the fiscal year, Congress authorized the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) to acquire, on behalf of the Library, real property and improvements in Culpeper, Va., for use as a National Audio-Visual Conservation Center. The Library and the AOC are working with the Packard Foundation, the donor of the facility, to renovate and make the new center ready for full use. The master plan for the renovation and development of the site was completed on Sept. 30, 1998, and approved by the Library's oversight committees in December 1998. The Library also continued to work closely with the Architect of the Capitol to ensure that the first storage module at the Fort Meade, Md., campus will meet environmental specifications and be ready for occupancy during the middle of calendar year 2000.

Important New Acquisitions

Important new acquisitions came to the Library through gift, exchange or purchase; the copyright deposit system; or through other federal agencies. Notable acquisitions during fiscal 1998 included the Pamela Harriman collection of 500,000 items belonging to this diplomat and political figure; papers of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg covering her career before appointment to the court; an addition of 2,000 items to the papers of Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan; the Martha Graham Archives, documenting the contribution of this pioneer in American dance; 32,000 papers of poet Edna St. Vincent Millay; additions to the records of the National Urban League, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People national office and the NAACP Wash-



Featured exhibitions at the Library included "The African American Odyssey," "Monstrous Craws and Character Flaws: Masterpieces of Cartoon and Caricature at the Library of Congress," "Religion and the Founding of the American Republic" and (opposite) "From Sea to Shining Sea: An American Sampler of Children's Books" and "Zion's Call: A Library of Congress Exhibition Marking Israel's Fiftieth Year."

ington Bureau; additions to the Irving Berlin Collection and the Leonard Bernstein Archives; and 60 drawings by political cartoonist Pat Oliphant.

Preservation Improvements

The Library improved the preservation of its vast and diverse collections by (1) completing the mass deacidification treatment of 80,000 additional volumes in American history using the Bookkeeper limited-production contract; (2) increasing processing efficiency through the elimination of redundant keying of data by creating an interface between the binding automation system and the Library's bibliographic database; (3) increasing production in binding (by 21 percent), in-house repair (by 21 percent), and boxing (by 30 percent) of Library materials; (4) completing the specifications for an internal text-page label that eliminates keying errors through the use of a Library of Congress Cataloging Number barcode; (5) establishing guidelines to assess the condition of brittle books, reformatting only those books deemed "too brittle to serve" and boxing those books considered "brittle but serviceable."

Copyright Office

The Copyright Office received nearly 645,000 claims and made 558,645 registrations in 1998. During the year, the Copyright Office processed 6,250 documents containing 23,140 restored titles under the Copyright Restoration Provision of the GATT Uruguay Round Agreements Act. Enacted on Jan. 1, 1996, this legislation restored the copyrights in a vast number of foreign works previously in the public domain in the United States. The office also processed 1,518 GATT registrations and 213 GATT Group registrations.

The Copyright Office concluded five Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panels proceedings, setting rates for: (1) the satellite compulsory license, 17 U.S.C. 119; (2) the mechanical license, 17 U.S.C. 115; (3) the digital performance license, 17 U.S.C. 114; and (4) the noncommercial broadcasting license, 17 U.S.C. 118. The fifth proceeding determined the final distribution of the 1991 cable royalties among the claimants in the music category.

National Library Service for The Blind and Physically Handicapped

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) distributed more than 22 million items to some 769,000 readers in 1998. NLS made major advances in the development of a digital talking-book system, improved its nationwide machine-repair and recognition program (in cooperation with the telephone Pioneers of America, the Elfun Society and other repair volunteers), and enhanced the NLS/BPH Web site to include digital files for full-text braille books.

American Folklife Center

Signed into law by the President on Oct. 21, 1998, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1999 included a provision to authorize permanently the American Folklife Center. At its annual meeting in Memphis, Feb. 12-13, 1998, the North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance presented the center with a lifetime Achievement Award, designed to honor members of the folk community who have made lifelong contributions to sustaining and enriching the fields of folk music and dance.

Bringing Library Treasures To the People

The Library's collections were shared with hundreds of thousands of Americans through exhibitions, special events and symposia, traveling exhibitions and major publications. Two new exhibitions were added to the Library's Web site, bringing the total to 19 on-line exhibitions. The on-line version of "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" was periodically updated to reflect the rotation of artifacts in the permanent exhibition. Two new exhibit spaces opened during the year: the Swann Gallery of Caricature and Cartoon and the Gershwin Room. Exhibition highlights included "The African American Odyssey" (displayed in all three Library buildings); "The Thomas Jefferson Building: 'Book Palace of the American People'" (in honor of the

building's centennial); "Monstrous Craws and Character Flaws" (the Swann Gallery's inaugural exhibition), "Religion and the Founding of the American Republic," which explored the role of religion in the founding of the American Colonies, the shaping of American life and politics and the formation of the American republic; "Zion's Call: A Library of Congress Exhibition Marking Israel's Fiftieth Year"; and "The Birth of Czechoslovakia: October 1918," which commemorated the 80th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia.

Copublishing arrangements with trade publishers included *Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States* (Alfred A. Knopf), which won numerous awards and appeared on many "best of" lists; *The Library of Congress: The Art and Architecture of the Thomas Jefferson Building* (W.W. Norton & Co.); *Oliphant's Anthem: Pat Oliphant at the Library of Congress* (Andrews McMeel Publishing); and *Remembering Slavery: African Americans Talk About Their Personal Experiences of Slavery and Freedom* (The New Press).

The Visitor Services Office conducted 2,732 tours for 60,465 visitors (including 532 tours for 10,022 congressional constituents) and arranged for 655 professional appointments for 3,076 visiting dignitaries, professionals and students from 81 countries). More than 100 volunteers provided 21,589 hours of service, conducted 1,811 tours and responded to inquiries from 187,471 visitors.

The National Digital Library Program supported a Web broadcasting pilot program to explore the practicality of a regular nightly Library cybercast during the Library's Bicentennial year. The first pilot cybercast was the opening lecture by Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, of the 1998-99 poetry season on Oct. 8, 1998.

The bimonthly *Civilization* magazine, which is published under a licensing agreement with the Library, completed its fourth year of publication with nearly 250,000 paid subscribers who are also Library of Congress Associates.

Restoration and Renovation

The Library continued to execute its multiyear plan to outfit and occupy the remaining renovated spaces of the Thomas Jefferson and Adams buildings. Major milestones included relocating the Federal Library and Information Center Committee to newly renovated space in the John Adams Building; completing renovation of the Swann Gallery, the Gershwin Room and the Coolidge Auditorium; and completion of the roof replacement project by the end of calendar year 1998.

Gift and Trust Funds

During fiscal 1998, more than 1,100 private gifts to 90 different Library funds supported a variety of new and continuing programs, including the National Digital Library Program; the Junior Fellows Program; the opening of two major exhibitions featuring Library collections ("The African American Odyssey" and "Religion and the Founding of the American Republic"); and the preparation for a third major exhibition: "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture." Gifts also supported preparation for a major joint exhibition with the British Library scheduled to open in 1999, the National Film Registry Tour, the Center for the Book and many other Library activities. Twenty new gift and trust funds were established including the Bob Hope Fund in support of the Bob Hope Gallery of American Entertainment; the Edwin L. Cox American Legacy Fund (for acquisitions); the Harper-Inglis Memorial Trust Fund for Preservation; and other funds supporting conservation internships, the Adopt-a-Book program, Hebraic Section programs and state centers for the book.

Of particular note is a $10 million grant received from the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, which the foundation used to purchase a facility in Culpeper, Va., that will become the Library of Congress National Audio-Visual Conservation Center. For the National Digital Library Program, more than $13 million was received, bringing the total in pledges and gifts from the private sector to $44.7 million toward a goal of $45 million.

Through the planned giving program, the Library received proceeds from a charitable remainder trust and additional gifts from Abraham and Julienne Krasnoff totaling more than $1 million to be added to the James H. Billington Trust Fund, which supports special projects by Library curators; $273,884 from the Marguerite Roll Trust to be added to the Marguerite Roll Local History and Genealogy Trust Fund; a charitable remainder trust of $50,000 from Edward and Joyce Miller to be added to a trust fund in support of the General Collections; four bequests totaling $521,412 from the estates of Irving Jurow (for the support of concerts featuring the harpsichord), Carolyn Just (in support of chamber music performances and recordings), Marjorie Mills Dadian (in support of the Armenian collections), and Charles A. Jahant (in support of the Jahant Collection of photographs in the Music Division).

Human Resources Improvement

During fiscal 1998, the Library's Internal University enhanced manage-

ment and workforce knowledge and skills by coordinating more than 100 courses in 559 class sessions. Training courses covered facilitative leadership, computer software and administrative management for first-line supervisors. In partnership with the Office of Scholarly Programs, the Internal University established "Collections, Connections and Service," a series of lectures based on the collections to enhance staff knowledge and awareness of the richness and diversity of the Library's holdings. IU also established the quarterly "Leadership Lecture Series," a forum for managers and staff to learn from top corporate, government and leadership scholars about current, effective leadership practices and techniques. IU has formed professional partnerships with other federal training leaders to benchmark government training and build a database of successful key training programs to develop strategic links and joint ventures to maximize return on scarce training resources. ◆

Ms. Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office. Portions of this article were excerpted from other staff reports.

Hoyniak Cited In *American Libraries*

Barbara Hoyniak (left), a visual materials cataloger in the Prints and Photographs Division, has been selected for her leadership and energy as one of 20 promising under-30 professional librarians by *American Libraries* (October 1998), in the article "Looking Ahead: 20 in their 20s: Young Professionals Talk about What It Means to Be a Librarian at the Turn of the Century."

Ms. Hoyniak was nominated in 1997 by her supervisor, Helena Zinkham, and, during the interim, *American Libraries* selected a cross section from the nominees, conducted interviews and wrote biographies of those selected. In her biography, Ms. Hoyniak, who catalogs a wide range of prints, drawings, posters and photographs in the Prints and Photographs Division and is an expert in automation, described why she decided to pursue a master's in library science at the University of Maryland (which she received in 1996), what she does at the Library and what she envisions for public libraries in the next century. Her current position at the Library supports the National Digital Library Program. ◆

Russia
continued from page 21

Russian patrimony law generally bars the export of pre-Revolutionary materials. The possibility of microfilming such works required greater investigation, due to the expense and the lack of the needed equipment in the provinces. Attention now focused on local and regional publications, which had been largely unavailable to the Library in the past, as well as important serials, such as the provincial *vedemosti* (legal gazettes). Mr. Van Oudenaren explains that another decision had been made by him and his LC colleagues. "We decided that we were prepared to launch a pilot project, a test case on a manageable scale, in order to work out the logistics involved in anything of this complexity," he says.

On June 11, 1998, Ms. Steckler again met with Mr. Kuzmin, this time in Sudak, Crimea, Ukraine. Also attending this meeting was Mikhail Levner, LC's bibliographic services representative in Moscow. Ms. Steckler recalls that "the three of us worked out a model of sending the books to a regional library center in the heart of Russia, for further distribution to members of the regional network by the main regional library."

Meanwhile, a collection of books had arrived in E&G, transferred from the closed Griffiss Air Force base in New York. "The Federal Transfer Program," Mr. Johnson explains, "encourages federal agencies to transfer unwanted material to the Library. Anything they send us that we do not add to our own collections is available for exchange."

"All of us, from the Librarian on down, appreciate the conversion of 'swords into ploughshares' aspect of the book source for this meta-exchange program being primarily closed U.S. military base libraries," says Mr. Van Oudenaren. "The present downsizing of our military is in no small part due to the end of the Cold War, so it seems quite appropriate that these books now be used to strengthen our relationship with the new Russia."

"We were very fortunate that we had a Russian librarian, Galina Lecsheva, interning with us during that period," said Mr. Panzera. She not only analyzed the status of LC's Russian exchanges during her tenure here, but "she also proved instrumental in selecting material Russian libraries would find both interesting and useful."

Ms. Lecsheva based her selections on two criteria, the first being their physical condition. "I selected books that were in good shape and could be shipped without damage or loss," she says. Aside from their travel-readiness, Ms. Lecsheva explains that she had specific subject matter in mind. "I wanted recent reference materials — encyclopedias and directories — as well as works of American fiction, history and culture." Such books, she notes, "are of interest to Russians, are not published within the country, and are expensive to purchase from abroad."

Mr. Johnson joined Ms. Lecsheva in selecting books for the pilot project and says, "Russians are avid readers. For many years they had little access to American popular literature. Provincial libraries were not even permitted to collect it. That, of course, has all changed. Russian librarians would prefer greater access to reference and busi-

ness works now, but they know their public craves fiction."

Ms. Lecsheva once told Johnson a story that illustrates not only the lack of American literature in Soviet-era Russian libraries, but also the value of the Federal Transfer Program. "Before Galina became a librarian at Voronezh State University," Mr. Johnson recalls, "she was was a student there. One of her courses was on American literature. She soon discovered that a good portion of the university library's collection of English-language American literature came from former U.S. military base libraries, received on exchange from LC."

There is another point to be made here, however, as Mr. Johnson is quick to explain. "The Griffiss AFB collection was typical of its kind," he says. "We ended up selecting 3,728 titles from it for the meta-exchange pilot project. Eighty percent of these were works of fiction, history and the arts. Reference works we could choose from were few in number and badly outdated; computer books, for example, are sought after in Russia, but virtually useless if they are more than two to three years old. The Griffiss library was typical of the book supply sources we presently have for large-scale exchange offerings — a little over 10 percent of which is useful on exchange," Mr. Johnson concludes.

Enter the Sabre Foundation, of Cambridge, Mass. In spring 1997, Mr. Johnson had consulted with Sabre's Rebecca Schneider on the costs and logistics of bulk book shipment to the Russian provinces. By September,

N. Alicia Byers

Michael Neubert and Eric Johnson with some of the materials involved in the exchange

Michael Neubert with staff of the Sverdlovsk Oblast Library and librarians from other libraries of the Urals region.

Mr. Van Oudenaren had formalized an agreement with them.

"There is a natural convergence of interests between the Library and Sabre," Mr. Van Oudenaren explains. "They have books and container shipping expertise, but do not get involved in distribution. We have books, but lack experience shipping on this scale. We do, however, have a well-developed network of contacts in Russia with whom we can work out regional distribution."

The Sabre Foundation was established in 1986 by Josiah Lee Auspitz, and its first shipment was to Poland. Sabre receives books donated by more than 200 American and European publishers specializing in educational texts. Although Sabre's recipients began with Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, it has since spread its endeavor to Africa and Asia.

"The Library of Congress shipment is a good example of how we work in collaboration with other organizations to send books overseas," explains John Emery who, with Tania Vivitsky, was the Library's prime contact at Sabre. "Typically," he continues, "we supply most of the books, but we recently sent English as-a-Second-Language materials to Ukraine using the partner's inventory. In the case of LC, it was more of a 50-50 split."

Mr. Van Oudenaren explains that an adjustment had to be made in the concept of the project to accommodate the rules of the joint suppliers and to allow as many books as possible to be sent. "Sabre deals only in the donation of books," he says. "The Library of Congress, on the other hand, cannot, by law, donate books. So it was apparent that this shipment would, in fact, be both an exchange [LC's titles] and a gift [Sabre's contribution], complete with separate packing slips and everything."

Curiously enough, Herbert Putnam found himself in a similar situation in 1907. Stung by criticism from some that he was spending money on "books from a country no one is interested in, written in a language no one can read," he described the acquisition of the huge Russian Yudin library on its arrival here as, "more of a gift, really, than a purchase."

At the very time a partnership was worked out with Sabre to provide books to Russia on a split exchange and gift arrangement, the Exchange and Gift Division at LC was going out of business, as was the Order Division. As part of a major reorganization of the Acquisitions Directorate, exchange, gift and purchase responsibilities were merged into new geographically based divisions.

Mr. Panzera became Chief of the European & Latin-American (ELA) Acquisitions Division. Likewise, Eric Johnson became a Baltic/Russian acquisitions specialist in the new Central & Eastern European Acquisitions Section (CEEAS) of ELA. Simultaneously Michael Neubert, a senior reference specialist in the European Division, was setting up shop in Ekaterinburg, in the southern Urals region of Russia, where he planned on spending the academic year teaching workshops in librarianship as an American Library

Valentina Terekhovich, head of the Department of Foreign Literature, with books that will be sent to other libraries in the region; Ms. Terekhovich and two of her staff.

Association Library Fellow.

Mr. Panzera summed up this confluence of events by saying, "I think it's a wonderful credit to our inventive and hard-working staff, especially Eric Johnson and Mike Neubert, who managed to put together this very important exchange while participating in a major reorganization, in Eric's case, and moving to a challenging overseas post, on Mike's part. The meta-exchange pilot project would not have happened without their commendable commitment and problem solving skills."

In 1906-1907, Herbert Putnam could call on Alexis Babine to investigate and, eventually, negotiate the acquisition of the Yudin Collection. Babine, born in Russia, fluent in the language, and thoroughly knowledgeable about the Russian book trade as well as the Russian character, was an integral component to the plan Putnam implemented to obtain the collection for the Library of Congress.

In 1997-1998, Michael Neubert became the on-site facilitator in Russia. Having barely had a chance to settle in and describe his busy schedule to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Neubert soon learned his schedule was about to become much more hectic. Mr. Johnson casually informed him that he might want to start thinking about preparing a landing site for, say, 10,000 books expected to arrive in his neighborhood soon!

The Yudin purchase was conducted over great distance by letter; by telegraph, when time was crucial to success. When documents needed to be sent quickly, Mr. Neubert would supply fax numbers for machines all over Ekaterinburg, in the hope that at least one legible copy would get through. The photographs for this article were taken by Mr. Neubert in Ekaterinburg. He then scanned them onto Web sites, and they were downloaded at LC from the Internet.

One of the first things Mr. Neubert and Mr. Johnson worked out was the network of recipient libraries. The books would be shipped to Ekaterinburg Oblast Library, which would then distribute them to four other oblast libraries: Perm, Cheliabinsk, Kurgan and Tiumen. Tiumen, in turn, would transship material to two smaller libraries, in Khanty-Mansiisk and Iamalo-Nenets.

According to Mr. Johnson, "The books we had already selected at LC, divided evenly among the seven recipient libraries, would give each of them 530 works of fiction, history and the arts. Sabre was providing 14 copies of each of its 450 titles, so that each recipient library would get two copies of each Sabre book. So, in theory anyway, each recipient library would receive at least 1,430 books."

In November 1997, Mikhail Levner, LC's Moscow bibliographic services representative, met with representatives of the recipient libraries to explain the project to them, as well as what LC expected in return.

On Dec. 24, 1997, the books were on their way to Port Elizabeth, N.J., where they were laded onto Atlantic Lines Sealand vessel 254 — destination Rotterdam — then transferred to railway cars. In 1907, the Yudin library was transferred from Krasnoyarsk to Hamburg by rail, then by ship across the Atlantic to New York, and then by rail to Washington. The shipping costs for 80,000 books in 1907 was, almost to the dollar, the equal of transporting 8,000 books in 1997.

Mr. Neubert continually stressed to his LC colleagues the need for documentation, "the more detailed, the better," he advised them. He consulted with U.S. consulate officials in Ekaterinburg, as well as the local customs officials, to ensure minimal delay in the shipment clearing customs.

Finally, on Feb. 4, 1998, Mr. Neubert e-mailed Johnson, "The meta container is indeed here!" And that is when his troubleshooting skills became most important. "There was a need to have a letter with a particular wording," Mr. Neubert recalls, "so I e-mailed the text to Eric, and the official letter was faxed from LC to here by the next business day." Mr. Neubert was now enjoying himself. "They found the letter a useful and acceptable addition to the pile of papers they already had," he informed Mr. Johnson. On Feb. 18, 1998, Mr. Neubert e-mails the good news that, "I have seen with my own eyes the books." Now, the onus shifted to the staff of the Ekaterinburg Oblast Library, who would have to store, unpack, sort and distribute the books throughout the region.

"I really would like to give proper credit to the oblast library staff who worked hard on this project," Mr. Neubert wrote. "Nadezhda Tsypina is the director of the oblast library, as well as the head of the local Russian Library Association filial. She agreed to have her library take the leading role in this project. Unfortunately, she fell ill, so much of the work fell to her principal deputy director, Liudmila Tugolukova. Nadezhda Tsypina has, thankfully, since returned to work. The person who managed to free the books from

customs was another deputy, Leonid Zolotukhin. I am still not clear on how he did this; it seems almost miraculous to me. Finally, all the unpacking and sorting of the books was done by the six women of the Foreign Literature Department, led by their supervisor, Valentina Terekhovich. Now they get to catalog it all!"

"I must add," Mr. Neubert continues, "that the oblast library was quite generous with the books it received. As well as distributing to all the other recipient libraries, they gave away their second copies of Sabre titles to various area libraries, according to the subject matter."

The time had come at LC for the staff to evaluate the success of the pilot shipment, and anticipate what the Library could expect to receive in return.

Ms. Steckler says, "I think this project is another great example of the successful team work of Russian specialists here at LC."

By March 1998, Mr. Johnson is e-mailing the recipient libraries, giving them further details on what LC is interested in receiving in exchange: local *vedemosti* legal gazettes, and serials and monographs devoted to the political, cultural, economic and social life of the city and region, and eliciting feedback from them. He soon begins to see results.

On April 3, Mr. Neubert supplies his colleagues with an update. Kurgan is the only recipient library that has yet to pick up its books. The oblast library in Ekaterinburg will supply LC with a number of serials, among them, ecological and legal periodicals. "A number of interesting and rather expensive books have been published locally," he reports, "and copies are being sent to LC as part of the exchange."

Echoing Mr. Johnson, who hopes the meta-exchange will strengthen existing exchange partnerships, Mr. Neubert says, "The increased sense of obligation as a result of this exchange means that the Russian libraries feel a greater duty to be responsive."

By April 20, Mr. Leich received and made recommendations on an offer list of monograph and serial titles from Cheliabinsk Oblast Library. Perm Oblast Library sends offer lists, and inquires whether LC could assist in microfilming retrospective titles on-site at their library. Marina Kropotina, of the Perm Oblast Library, writes Johnson that "the books you sent increase our English-language collections considerably. They afford us the opportunity to expand access to local readers of English."

The cities of Krasnoyarsk and Ekaterinburg themselves bracket the politics and history of Russia's 20th century.

When Yudin built his home and library on the bank of the Enisei river, Krasnoyarsk was a town of 26,000, many of its inhabitants exiles of the czarist prison system. Today, it is a city of over 600,000 and the capital of the vast Krasnoyarsk Krai, or territory. On May 15, 1998, Aleksandr Lebed, hero of Russia's war in Afghanistan and broker of an uneasy peace in Chechnya, won a run-off election for the governorship of the krai, a stepping-stone, he is quick to admit, to his running for the presidency of Russia in 2000 — "As goes Krasnoyarsk, so shall go Russia," vowed one of his campaign slogans.

Ekaterinburg is today the capital of Sverdlovsk Oblast; two names which evoke feelings of hope and despair. Ekaterinburg, founded by Peter the Great, and named for his wife, is where Czar Nicholas II, his wife, family and attendants were brutally executed in July 17, 1918, (after being moved from Tobolsk, where Yudin grew up). The decree that dispatched the 300-year Romanov dynasty to its bloody end was signed by Yakov Sverdlov, president of the All-Russia Central Executive Committee. Following Sverdlov's death in 1919, Ekaterinburg was renamed for him. In 1992, the city shed this name, but the oblast did not. July 17, 1998, 80 years later, the Romanovs were finally officially buried in St. Petersburg.

The Library of Congress staff involved in the Russian meta-exchange pilot project must attempt to anticipate the future. Eric Johnson has given much thought to an exchange arrangement with Russian libraries involving books, electronics and people.

"We have the Federal Transfer Program as our main book source for meta-exchanges at present," he says. "We sent no electronic material, and few reference works on this initial shipment. We had Mike Neubert on-site to anticipate and solve problems this time. All three of these areas need to be further developed in future exchanges.

"Ideally," Mr. Johnson continues, "we would establish a network of eight or nine distribution centers in Russia, and each would be sent material every two years — four meta-shipments a year.

"Now, what the libraries of Russia really want and need is reference materials and, more specifically, reference works in CD-ROM format. When I worked in LC's Congressional Research Service, we undertook a special project to help 13 former Soviet and East European parliamentary libraries obtain CD-ROMs. If we want to maximize our assistance to Russian libraries, we should provide them with CD-ROM towers, and build from that. We could create American information centers in each oblast library in this way, and open up cultural exchanges of people studying Russian and American issues."

In 1907, Gennadii Vasilevich Yudin wrote Herbert G. Putnam that his greatest hope in selling his collection to the Library of Congress was, "To encourage improved and strengthened relations and understanding between our two nations." Today, Dr. Billington envisions the same goal, with the meta-exchange pilot project being a major step in that direction.

Further meta-exchanges are already well into the planning stage. The front runner for the next shipment: Vladivostok. ◆

Mr. Walpole is a senior acquisitions assistant in the European and Latin-American Acquisitions Division, Central and Eastern European Acquisitions Section.

Leonid Zolotukhin, deputy director for the Physical Plant, in front of the Sverdlovsk Oblast Library

Ace Hoffman Studios

"Letters About Literature" coordinator Catherine Gourley at King's College, Pa., in the midst letters submitted by students for the 1999 contest.

News from the Center for the Book

20,000 Enter 'Letters About Literature' Contest

Dear Lurlene McDaniel:

I just found out that my friend has leukemia. The lessons I've learned from your books will be so useful now. You showed me what to expect. I know now that there will be some people who won't understand. ... they will leave my friend out or treat her differently. I won't let what happened to your character happen to my friend.

Books are about real people and real places. That's what the author of this letter, sixth-grade student "C.J." from Vermillion, S.D., discovered after reading Lurlene McDaniel's novel *Six Months to Live*. C.J. wrote her letter to the author after learning about the Center for the Book's national essay contest "Letters About Literature."

Sponsored in association with the Weekly Reader Corp., Letters About Literature invites students in grades 4 through 7 (Level I) and grades 8-12 (Level II) to write to an author — living or dead — describing how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking. Each year the students' letters never fail to impress the more than 100 judges from across the country who select the top essays in their states. This year, 25 affiliated state centers for the book and approximately 20,000 students just like C.J. participated in the program.

"Teachers and librarians are the critical link in this national essay contest," said project coordinator Catherine Gourley. "They are the ones who help students make that important connection between the people and events in literature and their own lives, and to express that connection in creative, controversial ways.

"Books do indeed have wings. For some students, the books they read help them to rise above prejudice and discover pride in their cultural and racial heritage. For others, the wings help them cope with difficult situations, like the illness of a friend. Students who come to this realization are more likely to be lifelong readers."

Ms. Gourley, who is herself the author of nine books, many written for young adults, has managed the "Letters About Literature" project for the past seven years. The national winning essayists for both levels in this year's contest will be announced in April as part of National Library Week. Many of the participating state centers for the book will hold state awards ceremonies shortly thereafter. For further information, contact Catherine Gourley, P.O. Box 51, Bear Creek Village, PA 18602, telephone (717) 472-3489, e-mail cgourley@pix.net.

■ **Affiliations with Eight State Centers Renewed.** Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole has announced that renewal applications from eight state centers (see below) have been approved for the period 1999-2001. "Every three years, each state center must apply for continuation of its affiliate status," Mr. Cole said. "The proposal is accompanied by a summary of its activities during the past three years and a description of plans for the future. The process is useful for both the national center and the state center, for it frequently leads to new administrative arrangements or projects that help revitalize a state's book and reading promotion activities."

The first state centers, Florida (1984) and Illinois (1985) are still active. Currently 36 states have statewide centers affiliated with the LC Center for the Book. Most of the state centers are located in state libraries or in large public library systems. Selective highlights of the activities of the eight newly renewed state centers and their reading promotion partners are outlined below.

■ **Kentucky**. The annual Kentucky Book Fair, sponsored with the Frankfort *State Journal* and several state agencies, is the center's major project. The Kentucky center and the Kentucky Humanities Council are partners in the traveling exhibition "Journeys Through Literary Kentucky." With the Kentucky Arts Council and others, the center was involved in the recent establishment of a Kentucky Poet Laureateship. Final plans have been made for a new Kentucky Literary Map. The Kentucky Council of Teachers of English will be the cosponsor, and teachers and librarians throughout the state will determine the map's content.

■ **Michigan**. The Michigan center helped underwrite the annual "Michigan Author of the Year" award. In 1997 it facilitated the donation of a major collection of literature by American Indian authors to the Library of Michigan, its host institution. The collection was donated to the library in the name of the Michigan Center for the Book by Irwin T. "Toby" Holtzman. With the Library of Michigan Foundation, the center is working with the Lapeer County Library staff to develop a traveling exhibition that would feature the work of Michigan children's book author Marguerite deAngeli.

■ **North Carolina.** The center participates in several national projects, including "Letters About Literature," Mother Goose Asks "Why?," the Vermont Center for the Book's family science and literature program and "Choices for the 21st Century: Defining Our Role in a Changing World," a program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Its reading and discussion group projects include "Let's Talk About It," "Poetry Spoken Then and Now" and "Read and Respond" (formerly "Teens Talk About Books").

OKLAHOMA
CENTER FOR THE BOOK

■ **Oklahoma**. The annual Oklahoma Book Awards is the Oklahoma center's premier event; the new "Authors in Libraries" program sends Oklahoma Book Awards finalists to public libraries for presentations. The Oklahoma center, one of two 1998 Boorstin State Center Award winners, participates in "Letters About Literature," supports poetry and literacy projects of other organizations and is planning a database of Oklahoma authors, illustrators and publishers.

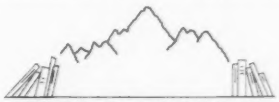
■ **Oregon**. The Oregon center administers the Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse. It also participates in "Letters About Literature," Mother Goose Asks "Why?," the Oregon Partners in Literacy program, the annual Oregon Book Awards, family poetry workshops and, with the Oregon Folklife Program, presents the "Traditional Arts in the Oregon Country" program in libraries around the state.

■ **Washington**. With support from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, the center has created an "If All Seattle Reads the Same Book" project and is developing a three-year program for building local audiences for literature. Other activities include "Letters About Literature," poetry and author readings, book discussion and book reviewing programs, a literary tour of Seattle and Living History presentations.

Washington Center for the Book at the Seattle Public Library

■ **Wisconsin**. "Wisconsin Authors Speak" sponsors presentations by Wisconsin authors in libraries and other institutions throughout the state. The book *Wallace Stegner and the Continental Vision* (Island Press, 1997) was a result of the center's 1996 symposium. A Wisconsin Authors Database is being developed for the Web site of the center's sponsor, the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. Exhibitions are being planned that will feature rare books owned by Wisconsin citizens and Wisconsin book artists.

WISCONSIN CENTER FOR THE BOOK



WYOMING
Center for the Book

■ **Wyoming**. The Wyoming center participates in the national "Letters About Literature" and Mother Goose Asks "Why?" projects. With the Rotary Club as a partner, it sponsored a three-year "Read To Me, Wyoming" read-aloud program for young children. The center received a $10,000 grant from the Jeld-Wan Foundation to sponsor "Young Readers on the Range," a project to acquire children's books for county libraries. The center is working on a Wyoming Literary Guide/Map and a Wyoming authors database. It will begin producing a quarterly newsletter in January 1999. ◆

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